

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1909.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Norton.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to lay before you my report for the year 1909, which is a record year for the small death-rate, and also for the ^{small} birth-rate; 39 deaths were registered as compared with 80 in 1908, the number of births being 92 as compared with 94 in 1908.

There were 22 infectious cases notified in 1909, only 19 in 1908.

The infectious cases were as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	10
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	8
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	3
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	1

SCARLET FEVER. The 10 cases occurred in four houses. Six cases were traced to the children drinking milk at a farm house in Hovingham whilst away for a school treat. One case was traced to an outbreak at Fridaythorpe, and the three other cases to relatives living away.

DIPHTHERIA. One case contracted away.

ENTERIC FEVER. Two cases on Scarbro' Road and one at Bark Knotts. The origin could not be traced.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

Estimating the population at 4,000 with 39 deaths, makes the death-rate 9·7, as compared with the death-rate of 20 in 1909. There were 12 deaths over 65 years of age, 3 over 80, and 7 over 70 years of age.

The death-rates for the five preceding years were :—

1904	..	..	..	..	16·0
1905	..	..	..	..	15·0
1906	...	..	...	...	11·1
1907	..	..	..	..	13·2
1908	..	..	..	...	20·0

There were nine deaths of children under one year of age. The causes of deaths were as follows :—

Inanition	..	..	..	..	..	2
Convulsions	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	1
Atelectasis	..	..	..	..	..	1
Premature	..	..	..	..	..	4

The death-rate per 1,000 births registered under one year was 2·2. The death-rate in 1908 being four.

The following gives the causes of death at all ages :—

Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	1
Phthisis Pulmonalis	..	..	..	..	..	2
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	3
Cancer	..	..	..	..	..	2
Premature Birth	..	..	..	..	..	4
Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	7
Marasmus	..	..	..	..	..	1
Senile Decay	..	..	..	..	..	4
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cerebral Hemorrhage	..	..	..	..	..	2
Nephritis	..	..	..	..	..	3
Other Causes	..	..	...	..	..	9

Mortality as to age :—

Under one year	..	..	..	9
1 and under 5	..	..	..	1
5 „ 15	..	..	..	1
15 „ 25	..	..	..	1
25 „ 65	..	..	..	15
65 „ 70	..	..	..	2
Over 70 years of age ..	..	..	..	7
„ 80 „	..	..	..	3

With regard to the milk supply, none of the infectious cases were traceable to this cause. The cow-houses conform to the bye-laws, both as to air space and proper drainage. All the cowkeepers are registered, and the cow-sheds are regularly visited and lime-washed twice a year.

The Slaughter Houses are in a satisfactory condition.

The Water Supply is ample and pure. No infectious cases have been traced to either the milk or water supply.

The district has been particularly free from epidemics of Measles and Whooping Cough, the year 1908 being a particularly healthy one.

The district is in need of further school accommodation, and the County Council are now arranging for building another school.

During the year extensive improvements have been made in the Sanitary Department. The site of the depot has been moved and a concrete bottom laid, with water supply to cleanse the pans. This has led to a marked decrease in the number of complaints by residents in the locality of the depot. The means now adopted in the collection of the tubs and the expeditious clearing away of the refuse has made a great improvement to the sanitary condition of the town.

All the cow-sheds in the district have been visited systematically. They have been thoroughly lime-washed and cleansed at intervals. All the milk vessels were clean.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS.

Several visits have been made to the different workshops, and all have been kept in a clean and satisfactory condition. None of the occupiers give work to outside workers. Two notices have been served for insufficient conveniences under the Factory Act, one of which has been abated and the other is now having attention.

The water mains have been further extended from the reservoir to the new training establishment.

The following is a list of nuisances abated taken from Inspector's journal :—

Defective paving repaired	..	..	..	2
Ashpits improved	..	..	..	3
Water Closets in place of privies	..	..	..	5
do in place of pans	..	..	..	4
Pans in the place of Ashpits	..	..	..	10
Drains improved	..	..	..	4
Complete New Drainage	..	..	..	3
Cesspools removed	..	..	..	2
Fall Pipes disconnected	..	..	..	1
Offensive Manure removed	..	..	..	2
Overcrowding abated	..	..	..	2
Defective surface wells filled in	..	..	..	2

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

R. H. F. BOSTOCK.